



The Marker Lamp



Volume 56

Number 1

Winter 2010



Tom Crosthwait's fine layout will be one of the operating layouts. Strawberry, Arizona a train order office and water stop half way up the climb from Pason, Arizona.



Here you see EXTRA 619 traveling light crossing Mormon's Creek in the Coconino National Forest, Mogollon Rim, Arizona.

Photos by Fred Bock

*Alamo Rails
San Antonio*

June 2-6, 2010

*Mark your calendar
to attend*

In This Issue

President's Message	3
Alamo Rails	4
Alamo Rails Registration	5
Company Store	7
Up The Track	8
Mastering Modeling	9
From the Past	10
Secretary/Treasurer's Report	10
ELF Stories 09'	11
Mid-Year Board Minutes	13
Youth Membership	15
Directors' Reports	15

The Marker Lamp

The Official Publication of
The Lone Star Region of The
National Model
Railroad Association

Volume 56, Number 1

EDITOR
CHUCK LIND

507 Kyle Avenue
College Station, Texas 77840
(979) 696-8862
E-mail: cr-lind@tamu.edu

ADVERTISING &
MAILING LIST

TOM BROWNING

5923 Overdowns Circle
Dallas, Texas 75230-4039
(214) 692-9784

E-mail: thomascb2004@sbcglobal.net

Visit the LSR's web page at:
www.lonestarregion.com

The editorial policy of **The Marker Lamp**, the official publication of **The Lone Star Region**, shall be to contribute, wherever possible, to the promotion, growth and understanding of the hobby of Model Railroading, within the confines of good taste and responsibility.

The Marker Lamp is published once each quarter by and for the members of **The Lone Star Region of The National Model Railroad Association**.

Articles appearing in **The Marker Lamp** are the opinions of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the position or policies of the officers or membership of **The Lone Star Region** or **The National Model Railroad Association**.

Address all correspondence, news, photos and drawings to the editor. All material will be gladly accepted and will be used depending on the availability of space and suitability of material. None will be returned unless a stamped, self-addressed envelope is provided.

Correspondence relating to Pike Ads, Dealer Ads, Address Changes and requests for extra copies should be addressed to **Tom Browning**

5923 Overdowns Circle
Dallas, Texas 75230-4039
(214) 692-9784

Submission Deadlines &
Advertising Closing Dates

Winter Issue.....January 15
Spring Issue April 15
Summer Issue.....July 15
Fall Issue.....October 15

Mailing Date:

Approx. 30 Days After Deadline.

Materials received after the deadline will be held for the next issue unless the author requests otherwise.

Lone Star Region Call Board

LSR Officers

PRESIDENT
BILL MCPHERSON
4402 Vista Creek Drive
Rowlett, Texas 75088-1818
(972) 463-9721
E-mail: tpbill@attglobal.net

VICE-PRESIDENT
LOREN NEUFELD, MMR
9821 Oboe
Houston, Texas 77025-7573
(713) 666-8451
E-mail: Loren.Neufeld@kbr.com

SECRETARY-TREASURER
TOM BROWNING
5923 Overdowns Circle
Dallas, Texas 75230-4039
(214) 692-9784
E-mail: thomascb2004@sbcglobal.net

BOARD ADVISOR
GERALD SCHOENBERG, MMR
1039 Clinton Street
Carrollton, Texas 75007-4828
(972) 242-9053
E-mail: arrjerry@aol.com

SECRETARY-EMERITUS
EUNICE LINDA
3028 Cumberland
Waco, Texas 76707-1219
(254) 754-5535
E-mail: jlinda@hotmail.com

LSR Directors-At-Large

DIRECTOR-AT-LARGE
ROBERT (BOB) BRAY
1820 Spruce Lane
Benbrook, Texas 76126-3910
(817) 249-4965
E-mail: brayrja@sbcglobal.net

DIRECTOR-AT-LARGE
TRACY MITCHELL, MMR
12018 Troulon
Houston, Texas 77072-4032
(281) 495-1669
E-mail: traymit@comcast.net

DIRECTOR-AT-LARGE
CHUCK LIND, MMR
507 Kyle Avenue
College Station, Texas 77840
(979) 696-8862
E-mail: cr-lind@tamu.edu

LSR Division Directors

COWCATCHER DIVISION (1)
CHRIS ATKINS
1633 Parkside Trail
Lewisville, Texas 75077
(214) 222-1285
E-mail: chris@railroadermodelers.com

BAYOU DIVISION (2)
DICK SCHNEIDER
418 Crossbow Drive
New Iberia, Louisiana 70563
(806) 792-7244
E-mail: trains42@aol.com

NORTH EAST TEXAS DIVISION (3)
JERRY HOVERSON, MMR
1900 Spring Blossom Ct.
McKinney, Texas 75070
(972) 540-5315
E-mail: jhoverson@tx.rr.com

CEN-TEX DIVISION (4)
BILL DRYDEN
1411 Briar Hill Drive
Georgetown, Texas 78626
(469) 964-8571
E-mail: bdr149@airmail.net

DIVISION (5)
DAVE LAMBERTS
3717 95th Street
Lubbock, Texas 79423-3811
(806) 792-7244
E-mail: DavidWL1944@aol.com

DIVISION (6)
FRED BOCK, MMR
5923 Windhaven
San Antonio, Texas 78239-2132
(210) 653-5947
E-mail: Fbockslrdiv6@aol.com

DIVISION (7)
DON P. KIMMELL
9132 Mansfield Road
Shreveport, Louisiana 71118
(318) 798-7718
E-mail: elf4kcs@mac.com

TEXAS GULF DIVISION (8)
RAY BYER
2607 Thomas Avenue
Pasedena, Texas 77506-2940
(713) 472-4599
E-mail: raybyer@yahoo.com

LSR Chairs

ACHIEVEMENT PROGRAM
AL BOOS, MMR
130 Surrey Lane
Universal City, Texas 78148
(210) 658-4548
E-mail: AandVBoos3@aol.com

PUBLICATIONS/EDITOR
CHUCK LIND, MMR
507 Kyle Avenue
College Station, Texas 77840
(979) 696-8862
E-mail: cr-lind@tamu.edu

CONTEST
DUANE RICHARDSON, MMR
1122 Holland Drive
Garland, Texas 75040
(972) 495-6375
E-mail: duane@purgatoryanddevilriver.com

CONVENTION
BILL MCPHERSON
4402 Vista Creek Drive
Rowlett, Texas 75088-1818
(972) 463-9721
E-mail: tpbill@attglobal.net

HISTORIAN
JIM LONG, MMR
2404 Creek Ridge
Pearland, Texas 77581-5728
(281) 482-4987
E-mail: (none)

DISPATCHER N/HO-SCALE CARS
MATTHEW LATHAM
2320 Hickory Leaf Lane
Flower Mound, Texas 75022-4945
(972) 358-6168
E-mail: wnrailway@yahoo.com

EVENTS
BILL DRYDEN
1411 Briar Hill Drive
Georgetown, Texas 78626
(469) 964-8571
E-mail: bdr149@airmail.net

WEB SITE
DUANE RICHARDSON, MMR
1122 Holland Drive
Garland, Texas 75040
(972) 495-6375
E-mail: duane@purgatoryanddevilriver.com

NOMINATIONS
GARY MCMILLS
649 Broadmoor Ave.
Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70815
(225) 930-0387
E-mail: santafe@txnet.net

MEMBERSHIP
LARRY SWIGERT
6548 Clearhaven Circle
Dallas, Texas 75248
(972) 239-0909
E-mail: LS4Results@aol.com

EDUCATIONAL CHAIR
TRACY MITCHELL, MMR
12018 Troulon
Houston, Texas 77072-4032
(281) 495-1669
E-mail: traymit@comcast.net

PHOTOGRAPHY CHAIR
DAVE LAMBERTS
3717 95th Street
Lubbock, Texas 79423-3811
(806) 792-7244
E-mail: DavidWL1944@aol.com

NON-RAIL
VIRGINIA FREITAG
1835 Alta Vista
Houston, Texas 77023-2503
(713) 926-2993
E-mail: v-gfreitag@comcast.net

YOUTH
TOM BROWNING
5923 Overdowns Circle
Dallas, Texas 75230-4039
(214) 692-9784
E-mail: thomascb2004@sbcglobal.net



President's Message

by Bill McPherson

The year 2010 will be a most significant one for our nation. We will celebrate the 100th year of the Boy Scouts of America organization and the 75th year of our National Model Railroad Association. Both events will feature extraordinary celebrations.

The National Convention of the NMRA will be held from July 11 to 18 in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. The size and scope of the events are stupendous. It will include: 163 different clinics of which 123 have never been offered before; 27 layout tours; 16 prototype tours including Kalmbach Publishing, Walthers, Bucyrus International, Harley Davison; 9 general interest tours; 27 different OPSIG (operations) layouts; 8 social events including dinner cruise; model contests; auction, and the National Train Show with hundreds of manufacturers and dealers represented. More information and registration forms are available at the NMRA web site nmra75.org and in future issues of *Scale Rails*.

A great surprise happened at the Plano Train Show on January 16-17. **Thirty one** new NMRA memberships were sold by an energized team headed by Larry Swigert, LSR Membership Chairman, with Mike Jobe, Jerry Hoverson, Chris Atkins and others proclaiming the benefits from joining the NMRA. Gift certificates, hobby shop discount cards, and other benefits were given for joining. Clinics and other assistance were offered to answer the needs of the show attendees. An impressive attention getter was the 6 ft. x 3 ft. sign high above the LSR/NMRA booth. You couldn't miss it! According to the national NMRA Headquarters, these 31 new members set a new record for a local train show. These are hard times, and the LSR membership has dropped by 55 members during the past year. Many thanks are given to Larry and his team for helping to bring in these new members and for working very hard to retain our present members.

The mid-year LSR Board Meeting was held in San Antonio on January 23. Twenty-three officers, directors, committee chairpersons, and guests were present. Our board meetings are open ones, and all NMRA members are encouraged to participate. We had a most informative and productive meeting. Since the LSR recently purchased digital projectors, I thought using one to project documents and reports would enable everyone to "see" what was being talked about. I fed ideas and reports to Tom Browning, our new Secretary-Treasurer, and he spent many hours developing new reports and getting these ready for projection. For example, motions were projected onto the screen and everyone could then edit the wording on the screen image. That was cool! Really cool!! Well, we had to do something to make up for the Cowboys losing their big game.

The Board Meeting lasted 4 ½ hours, but I will summarize some of the discussions. The Minutes from the meeting are printed elsewhere and will provide additional details. Four young men were nominated and approved for our Youth

Program under the intense directorship of Tom Browning and assisted by the Division Directors. The LSR Model Contest Rules changes have been worked on extensively for years now. Finally these new rules were approved. They appear on the LSR web site (lonestarregion.org) and will be published in a later edition of *The Marker Lamp*. They will become effective six months after publication as provided in the LSR By-Laws.

Long-time NMRA/LSR member Walter J. Zahn has established the Walter Zahn Memorial Contest Award Fund in honor of his father. His initial \$1,000 contribution will be allocated at the rate of \$200 per year for a period of 5 years as partial funding for the contest awards of the LSR. Thanks Walter for this generous contribution.

Chris Atkins reported on the 2009 Dallas-Fort Worth Trinity River Interchange convention. The 236 Rails, Non-Rails and youths enjoyed a tremendous variety of activities. The convention had a net income of \$2,976 with Division 1 and Division 3 together receiving 50 percent and the LSR the remainder. Upon reviewing the convention report, the Board requested additional financial information from the convention chairman Jerry Hoverson.

In the Board meeting a substantial amount of time was devoted to reviewing the LSR financial status. The LSR income is received primarily from our LSR annual conventions and from the \$4 per member received annually as our share of the NMRA membership fee. The LSR's greatest expense is the \$5,000 per year for printing and mailing *The Marker Lamp* to all regional members. For the fiscal year ending April 30, 2010 the LSR expenses may be very close to the budget adopted last year which projected a net loss of \$3,963. However, our income may be \$1,664 more than expected primarily due to the profit from the Dallas-Fort Worth convention, so the net loss may be reduced to \$2,500.

At the Board meeting several ideas for improving our financial position were reviewed. However, additional thoughts and analyses are needed before any decisions can be made. Thus, this will be a topic at our annual Board meeting on Sunday June 6 after the convention. We welcome your comments and suggestions.

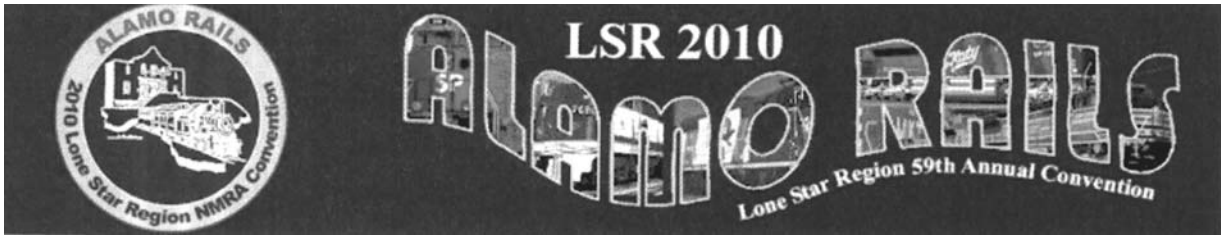
This is the world's greatest hobby. Enjoy it to the fullest !

View from the Spar Pole

By Chuck Lind, MMR

Between working on revising the railroad in time for the Sn3 Symposium in Houston at the end of February and getting this issue ready for print I have not had time for much else.

I continue to volunteer at the Southern Forest Heritage Museum in Long Leaf, LA. Heritage Day is our big fund raiser which will be May 1st. If you have an interest in logging you need to make it to Long Leaf. Heritage Day will actually kick off Friday evening April 30th with a dinner and concert by Albert & Gage out of Austin in the Planer Mill. Saturday everything will be happening with the M4 railbus taking visitors around the mill site loop and the railcar making trips into the wood, with yours truly at the throttle. If you need more information please visit their web site at www.forestheritagemuseum.org for more details and other special events.



News from the Headhouse.

I am glad to report that the team has been successful in meeting the registration information deadline. You can see this in the Spring Marker Lamp and of course, the website. A lot of work in hammering the final details but I believe that those attending will have a great adventure.

For the Ladies, the Central Market Place Class is a treat that will delight all that attend. Here is our Event Coordinator, Ms Evie Scott, to tell us about it.

Alamo Rails Central Market Cooking Class & Lunch. Whatever your level of expertise in the kitchen, you'll always learn something new and exciting at HEB's Central Market Cooking School. They have earned a reputation for world-class instruction by offering culinary expertise from their talented chefs as well as a diversity of local, regional and nationally known chefs and culinary instructors. We will travel to HEB's Central Mkt. by private van. Cooking School is scheduled for noon and lunch is after class. You will get a chance to do a little shopping or browsing at Central Market before we return to the hotel. Check www.Alamorails.com for more details.

The Prototype tours are geared for the model railroaders. The quarry, with its gravel cars and buildings, will give modelers ideas as to how the actual quarries handle the tons of material that is needed to keep the construction industry going. Don Scott has some information on that.

Alamo Rails Hanson Quarry and Ft Sam Houston Tour. Board your bus and relax for a ride up north to the Hanson Quarry at Garden Ridge, Tx. We will tour the Quarry pit via bus and watch the large front end loaders haul the aggregate to the sorting station. From there, it is sorted into bins and ready to load in hoppers, gondolas or trucks. If we are lucky, we may get to see a blast and watch thousands of tons of rock fall from the pit wall. Hanson has several miles of track and two "new to them" ex UP SD40's doing the work. UP hauls a trainload a day from this active pit. We will walk down the hill to the staging tracks where train loads wait for UP trains. Bring your walking shoes.

Back onboard the bus for a short ride to historic and busy Ft Sam Houston for a tour of the last Hospital Car built in 1953 by the St Louis Car Company. This car is kept under cover and is in great shape. You will be able to walk thru the car and see what it was like to travel by rail in an Army Ambulance Train. Bring a Picture ID to be allowed on Base!

We also have the Riverwalk tour. Again, our Ladies Event Host, Ms Evie Scott.

Alamo Rails San Antonio River Ride and Lunch. Join us on a tour with entertaining narratives of the rich history of the San Antonio River. The Cruise is 40



minutes long and will cover two and a half miles of the beautiful San Antonio River Walk. We will have lunch in true San Antonio Style, which is included in your fare. Transportation is by private van, so seating is limited.

The Local railroad has allowed the convention to bring folks to the rail yard for a tour of the facilities. You will be able to see the yard, office, switching leads and other shops that make the railroad work. Bring your camera. Gary Brown has some information on this.

Want a chance to operate a UP train? Join us on the UP Proto-Tour at the LSR, 2010 Alamo Rails Convention, June 2-6, 2010, in San Antonio, TX. Several lucky individuals will be selected to operate a train using the UP Loco simulator located at Sosan Yard, San Antonio, TX. Sound great! Our tour will include Sosan Yard, San Antonio, TX, Car and Locomotive Facilities, Remote control switching demo, and other facilities. In addition, we are planning a visit to one of the newest Intermodal Facilities in the country. The San Antonio Intermodal Terminal or SAIT. Sign up now. Space will be limited. A short word on the prototype tours. Please dress accordingly and wear appropriate shoes. These are active places of business and Safety First is not just a slogan. Closed shoes. **No open toe, sandals and the like will be permitted. No refunds due to this issues not being adhered to. So be forewarned.**

Wimberley Blanco and Southern. OK you Steam buff.



Well, smaller scale anyway. Mr. Edwards, the Chief Operating officer and President of the WB&S, has offered to have his layout open for the convention. This is a bus trip from the Hotel to the site.

When you get there, there will be Steam Passenger trains ready to take away. You climb and move out of the station along a double track railroad spanning Hill country creeks and dales. The puffing exhaust as the engines climb the long grade is a sound and sight to behold. Lunch will be served and in the early afternoon, the bus will return you to the convention hotel. This is a rare treat and for those that have never ridden behind live steam models, this is a great place to start. Sign up early for this one as we are sure space will go quickly.

Want more train rides?

Well, on Friday night, we will have a group outing at the Texas Transportation Museum for rides and dinner. TTM has one to one scale rides for our dinner event



and of course you can visit the different exhibits on the property. In addition, there is the HO scale AMRE layout that will

The Marker Lamp



Alamo Rails 2010
Lone Star Region Convention
June 2-6 2010
Early Registration Ends April 17, 2010



www.alamorails.com

www.samratx.org

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Email: _____ Telephone: _____

NMRA #: _____ Expiration Date: _____

Name Desired on Badge (print please): _____

Spouse/Other attendees: _____

Hotel Reservations	The Convention Rate is \$90 per night Single or
Holiday Inn	Double occupancy. This rate is good thru May 17.
77 N. E. Loop 410	Make your reservations directly with the
San Antonio, Tx 78216	Holiday Inn and Mention NMRA/LSR
9900-9900-9900	Convention. (No Email for Res. Available)

Note: The Convention Rate is good for 3 days before and after the Convention if made by May 17, 2010

Regular Registration Includes

- Admission to Friday Night Texas Transportation Museum with dinner Included
- Admission to clinics including many by Master Model Railroaders
- Access to the Contest Room to view and photograph some of the best model building in the Lone Star Region
- Access to the silent auction and the chance to bid on many railroad items
- Admission to the Saturday Night banquet featuring Guest Speaker Steven Priest, Editor of *Scale Rails*
- Admission to the Sunday morning breakfast and annual Lone Star Region business meeting
- Select Extra Fare prototype tours, Make and Take Clinics and operating sessions
- Admission to area home layouts and the SAMRA Museum Railroad
- Rail fanning opportunities
- For more information contact: Donald Scott Email: Katydon@satx.rr.com



Lone Star Region Convention
June 2-6 2010

Early Registration Ends April 17, 2010

Alamo Rails Convention Fee Schedule

June 2-6, 2010

REGULAR REGISTRATION	COST		QTY	TOTAL
Postmarked on or before April 17, 2010	\$89	X		\$
Postmarked after April 17, 2010	\$99	X		\$
SPOUSE REGISTRATION				
Postmarked on or before April 17, 2010	\$89	X		\$
Postmarked after April 17, 2010	\$99	X		\$
OTHER FAMILY REGISTRATION				
Minors (6-16 includes Friday TTM meal & Banquet)	\$45	X		\$
Minors under 6 free (Includes TTM Visit, no Meals)				
OPTIONS				
Day Pass (does not include Banquet or Breakfast)	\$30	X		\$
Saturday Night Banquet Only	\$38	X		\$
Sunday Morning Breakfast Only	\$22	X		\$
EXTRA FARE				
Prototype Tour #1 Wimberley (Thurs. via Bus/With Lunch) Limit 50 (Wimberly, Blanco & Sou. Live Steam All Day Tour)	\$55	X		\$
Prototype Tour #2 Hanson Quarry /Ft Sam (Thurs. via Bus) Limit 50	\$25	X		\$
Prototype Tour #3 UP Yards (Fri. via Bus) Limit 50	\$25	X		\$
Convention Promotion Car HO (SA&N) before April 17, 2010	\$18	X		\$
Convention Promotion Car HO (SA&N) after April 17, 2010	\$20	X		\$
Convention Sport Shirt/W Pocket: S M L XL 2XL* 3XL*	\$28	X		\$
Convention Dress Shirt Short Sleeve: S M L XL 2XL* 3XL*	\$32	X		\$
Convention Dress Shirt Long Sleeve: S M L XL 2XL* 3XL*	\$32	X		\$
Convention Decals (Al Boos' Cibola Creek Western) HO Scale Only	\$5	X		\$
Soldering Clinic (Make & Take) Limit 25	\$25	X		\$
HO Track Side Office (Make & Take) Limit 25	\$30	X		\$
Make & Take Decal Clinic (Car & HO CCW Decals Provided) Limit 32	\$18	X		\$
NON RAIL EXTRA FARE				
Central Market Cooking Class & Lunch (Pvt. Van Transport) Thur.	\$25	X		\$
San Antonio River Boat Ride & Lunch (Pvt. Van Transport) Fri.	\$35	X		\$
Ladder Lace Necklass & Earrings (Make & Take) Limit 25	\$5	X		\$
Ribbon Christmas Tree Clinic (Make & Take) Limit 25	\$12	X		\$
OPERATIONS	\$10 Deposit Returned at Session			
Wed. & Thurs. [Limited] Sign up on WWW.alamorails.com	\$10	X		\$
MEMBERSHIP OPTIONS, ETC.				
NMRA Registration for non-NMRA members	\$58	X		\$
NMRA Rail Pass -- 6 Month Membership FOR Non NMRA members	\$9.95	X		\$
Facility Usage if not staying at the hotel or home (see below)	\$25	X		\$
Make checks payable to: Lone Star Region				Total \$

*Add \$2 for 2X Sizes and \$4 for 3X Sizes

Note: The \$25 facilities Usage Charge (primary registration only) applies to those who do not stay at their own home or at the convention hotel. The cost of the hotel's meeting rooms, banquet, and other facilities is offset by the attendees (locals as well as out-of-towners) purchasing the guaranteed number of hotel room nights. If this guaranteed number is not met, the use of the facilities would greatly increase the cost of the convention. Since every attendee benefits from the facilities, we are encouraging everyone to stay at the convention hotel.

Mail completed registration form with payment to:

Donald Scott, Registrar
22016 Senna Hills Dr.
Garden Ridge, Tx 78266
 210-651-7540 katydon@satx.rr.com



be running. Also on the property is the San Antonio Garden Railroad Engineer Society. Beside all this railroad stuff, they have a great vehicle collection. Come one and all, it is included in your registration package.

Operations

Yes, we will have them. We will have Operating sessions at the SAMRA Museum building along with at least one garden railroad and other home layouts. Some of the layouts will also be on the Operating and Layout tours. Some of these are Tom Crosthwait's Mogollon & Southwestern Railroad



FCP Extra 1506 South passes the decrepit coaling tower just outside Mary Lake. The tipple dates from the narrow-gauge Arizona Mineral Belt days, when

coal replaced wood as fuel for the diminutive 4-4-0's of the era. The line was widened to standard gauge and converted from coal to oil around 1900, when it was absorbed by the present-day Mogollon & Southwestern RR, leaving the old tipple to gradually fall into disrepair. MMR Al Boos scratchbuilt the tipple from a Long Island prototype he passed each day walking to school. Model donated to the M&Sw by Stan Adams.

An "officers' special" – FCP Extra 1506 — is southbound along the Tonto Basin canyon wall.



In a few minutes it will cross the head of the canyon and then pass over "Adams' Bridge", a straining timber-truss deck bridge scratchbuilt in wood by Stan Adams. Rockwork in Tonto Basin was done with large plaster molds

applied "wet" to the canyon walls and finished with acrylic washes. Tom did most of the rock casting,

Another layout that has been featured in Great Model Railroad is: Joe & Sharon Mainz's Southern Pacific Dalsa Cutoff Tower No. 3 at Flatonia, Texas. Just a sampling for now.



Clinics

Enough to keep you busy. We will have the make and take and a full list on the website. Please see it for additional information. There you can browse at your leisure and plan your schedule.

As I said, a short note to tell you to get ready for San Antonio. Please go to the website at www.alamorails.com

Paul Steves

Chairperson

Special Contest for San Antonio "Prove them wrong"

I've been told that you can't take a \$5 or \$10 kit and make a model out of it that will merit. Now, I know that it can be done because I couldn't let a challenge like that go unanswered so I built one. It's easy to do with a lot of extras that won't come with the kit and some planning. So, fellow modelers, here is your mission...Buy a small building kit that is no more than \$15 in N or HO (for S and O scalers you might have to spend a little more but shoot for under \$25 for the bigger scales). The kit is to be a simple building with 4 walls and no frills. Using DPM for example just start with a plain brick building. Add any and all extras that you want to your heart's desire...heck add new walls to extend the building. Let's show the critics that you can merit with a cheap kit if it's done right. Also, the instructions from the kit need to be included in the submitted contest forms so we can see what it was supposed to look like and what you have done instead.

Company Store

	HO	N-Scale
Casey Lines	OUT	\$ 5.00
Texas & African	\$5.00	OUT
Waco Austin & Bryan	OUT	\$ 5.00
Anniversary Car 1951	OUT	per set \$10.00
Anniversary Cars 2001	OUT	per set \$10.00
ITC - Bob Clarke	\$5.00	per set \$10.00
Quin Lines	\$12.00	OUT

Check your layout and be sure you have one of each *special run* Region car. If not we can take care of the shortage post haste.

Other items available

Cloth Region Patches	\$5.00 each
Auto/Window Region Decal	\$.50
N Scale Nevadun Decals	\$2.00 per sheet
HO&N Scale Daw Cha Southern Decals	\$2.00 per sheet
HO&N Scale Downe and Owlte	\$4.00 per sheet
HO&N Scale Cape Able and Port Entous	\$4.00 per sheet

Shipping

Please add \$5.00 for up to 3 cars and add \$1.00 for patches and decals

Matthew Latham, Dispatcher
2320 Hickory Leaf Lane
Flower Mound, TX 75022-4945
972-358-6168
E-mail: wnrailway@yahoo.com

Up The Track

By Bill Dryden

Here is the list of the upcoming events within the LSR of which I am aware. I will provide all the information YOU send me or I can glean from other publications, websites, etc., for these events. Additional information may be available through the NMRA *Scale Rails* and/or various trade magazines or various websites. Please forward any and all information about upcoming events or activities in your area, club, etc., to me via email at bdr149@airmail.net. Also, note that all show times and dates are at the discretion of the sponsoring organization and are subject to change.

LSR CONVENTION: Lone Star Region 59th Annual Convention (2010) San Antonio, TX The Lone Star Region NMRA 59th Annual Convention will be held at the Holiday Inn Select by the San Antonio Airport. Check the LSR website. Come all!! **PARTICIPATE!!!**

RECURRING EVENTS AND MEETINGS:

NOTES: I need someone from each of these organizations to provide confirmation and updated information for their group or these will be dropped from the listing. Also, if there are others who wish to be included, please send me the information.

LSR Division 3 - Northeast Texas Division

Garland

Monthly Meeting Nicholson Memorial Library, 625 Austin St., Garland, TX Third Saturday of each month. For more information contact Jerry Hoverson, MMR jhoverson@tx.rr.com or the Division 3 Page on the LSR website.

Alamo Model Railroad Engineers Meeting

San Antonio

The Alamo Model Railroad Engineers meet the 2nd Friday of the month at 7:30 p.m. in the Zucht Building at the Texas Transportation Museum, 11791 Wetmore Rd., San Antonio TX. For more information call Peter Shavney (210) 317-3661 or Gene Turner (210) 355-2777, or visit the web site www.alamomodelrailroadengineers.com.

DFW Area Lionel Modular Group Meeting

Plano

The DFW Lionel Modular Group meets the second Monday of the month at 6:45 p.m. in the Gladys Harrington Library, 1501 East 18th St., Plano, TX. For more information call (972) 422-4330.

Houston Area Live Steamers

Hockley, TX

Over 9,000 feet of track for you to enjoy and ride. Someone is usually there every Saturday with special run, operations, waybills/timetable, work and fun run days scheduled throughout the year. Our public run days are the third Saturday of the month March through November. Come see our 2,500 foot expansion in Phase 4. Model Railroaders (any scale) are welcome to attend most any time. Check our web site out at www.hals.org for schedule of events or e-mail Peter Bryan at peterb@pdq.net for more information.

North Texas Council of Railroad Clubs Meeting

Irving, TX

The North Texas Council of Railroad Clubs (NTC) meets the third Tuesday of the month. Visit the NTC website www.dfwtrainshow.com for more information about the NTC, its meeting site or its member clubs. All model railroaders welcome.

EVENTS AND SHOWS:

February 2010

6th 1st Annual Taylor Trains, Trucks, Tractors and Toys; Sat. 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., \$3 per person (\$10 family maximum), Knights of Columbus Hall, 2201 East 4th Street (US 79 Business), Taylor, TX. For more information call Ed Stoll (512) 859-2889.

20th Greater Houston Train Show, Sat. 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Adults \$6, Ages 12-18 \$1, Stafford Centre; 10505 Cash Road @ Murphy Road, Stafford, TX. For more information, call Steve Sandifer or Steve.Sandifer@sbcglobal.net.

24th – 27th Sn3 Symposium 2010, Hobby Airport Marriott Hotel, 9100 Gulf Freeway, Houston, TX. For more information call Craig Brantley (281) 642-4189 or www.Sn3-2010.com.

March 2010

20th – 21st New Braunfels Railroad Museum Jamboree, Sat. 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Sun. 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., Adults \$6, Teens 13-17 \$2, Children 5-12 \$1, New Braunfels Civic Center, 380 S. Seguin Avenue, New Braunfels, TX, For more information: www.newbraunfelsrailroadmuseum.org, Jerry Garteiser at jerryG@gvtc.com.

20th – 21st Longview Model Train Show, Sat. 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., Sun. 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., Adults \$7, Children 12 and under Free. Exhibit Building, Longview Fairgrounds, off Hwy 31 on Jaycee Drive, Longview, TX. For more information contact: Homer Fleischer, P.O. Box 6704, Longview, TX 75608, phone (903) 753-9512, Email: homerflash@aol.com.

April 2010

24th – 25th Cotton Belt Train Show. Sat. 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Sun. 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., Adults \$6, Children 12 and under \$2, Harvey Convention Center, 2000 West Front St, Tyler, TX. For more information contact: Gerald Cooper (903) 839-2501

June 2010

2nd – 6th 59th LSR Convention, San Antonio, TX.

July 2010

11th – 17th NMRA National Convention, Milwaukee, WI.

FUTURE EVENTS (MORE INFORMATION TO FOLLOW AS AVAILABLE)

October 2010

9th – 10th LMRA 28th Annual Train Show, Fort Worth, TX.

Mastering Modeling - Urban Archeology in Colorado... Como

By Tracy Mitchell, MMR

Last time I talked about the town of St. Elmo. In this installment, we move a little farther up North on the Denver South Park & Pacific RR to the town of Como. Just like St. Elmo, Como was tied to the DSP&P and mining. St. Elmo was tied to mining of precious metals; Como was tied to a different kind of mining, Coal. Coal came from the King Coal mine located just south of town.

The town was founded in 1879 when the DSP&P arrived. Prior to the RR, the town site was called Stubbs Ranch. The DSP&P purchased the Ranch and founded the town soon after. Como was near the point where the line over Boreas pass (a trip worth taking in itself) split off from the route west over Trout Creek Pass. This, combined with the coal deposits nearby, made the town a great division point. Many Italian immigrant miners arrived to work the King coal mine. They named the town Como after Italy's Lake Como.

The six stall stone roundhouse was built in 1881. Shortly after it was built, it was expanded with thirteen wooden stalls. In 1918, ten of the wooden stalls were removed. In 1937 the final 3 wooden stalls were destroyed in a fire. The Roundhouse also included a machine shop and blacksmith's shop too. Minor repairs were done on the locomotives here. Because of the steep grades on Boreas pass, helper engines were also serviced

here. It is being restored today. The brick hotel with its two identical, but separate structures soon followed. In 1896, the hotel was



destroyed by a fire, only to be rebuilt again into the configuration it is today. Today the hotel is being used as a Bed and Breakfast. The

wooden depot is also being restored. When my brother and I first saw the depot back in 1989, we thought the depot was a barn. It was in that bad of shape.

At one time Como included a general store, post office, bakery, barber shop, Chinese laundry, confectionery, drug store, pool hall, and the Odd Fellows hall. Five saloons and four churches were also located in Como. A remarkable ratio for a Colorado town, most had a 3 to 1 ratio for saloon and churches. Things prospered until the Alpine Tunnel was abandoned and rail traffic declined. The coal mine was abandoned in 1937 and by 1940 the town was a bonified ghost town. It remained that way until the 70's and 80's when Denverites started discovering the town and built summer cottages. That trend still continues to this day and the town shows no sign of dying.

The Marker Lamp



The "cute" buildings include one of the saloons, the Diamond Saloon. This structure was a saloon but it appears it was converted into a garage of some kind based on the double doors it has. This was done very early on

because the double doors retain the character of the building.

The next building is what I like to call the Octagon, because of the unique cupola it has. This was a fire station judging by the door location.



The two original school houses complete with "two holer" outhouses in the back

are still standing today. The largest of the school's was where 1st-8th grade classes were held. The smaller school was the high school. Today the grade school is the town's civic center.



Today, Como is very easy to reach by automobile via a paved road. It is located just one mile off

of US 285. Although only a small percentage of the original buildings remain, the town retains much of its original character. The town is decorated with abandoned buildings, mixed with summer homes that retain the charm of a "ghost town". If you go please take the time to drive the whole town, those original structures that do still exist are worth the time to explore. The residents are very friendly provided you respect their property. Funds for the six stall roundhouse and depot restorations are provided by private donations and the Colorado Historical society. Once when the restorations are complete this will be a must stop for any railfan. In the next issue I will discuss the quaint little town of Fairplay, where Comedy Central's cartoon South Park is based on.



Back to modeling now

FROM THE PAST (Winter 1985)

By Jim Long, MMR LSR Historian

Ed Quin, the LSR President, was elected to the position of NMRA Southern Vice President replacing Houston's Bob Ellis. Bob Ellis has been placed in one of the NMRA's toughest jobs – National Headquarters Building Coordinator. San Antonio's John Lowrance has moved from the LSR Vice Presidents office to the LSR Presidents office. John says that the Vice President's major job is trying to stay awake at meetings – How could I have let a good deal like that slip thru my fingers!

Bob Mason of Carrollton, Tx. was elected Vice President to fill the vacancy left when John Lowrance stepped up to president. Dr. Richard Kamm of Shreveport, La. was elected to replace Bob Mason as the Area 2 Director. Don Payne of Lubbock, Tx. was elected to fill the vacancy of the Area 1 Director that Jim Van Gaasbeek resigned due to moving to West Germany. Cal Thacker of San Antonio has agreed to serve as the new LST Historian replacing Barbara Scott.

The mid-year Board of Directors meeting of the Lone Star Region was held in San Antonio on January 26, 1985.

Jay Pritchard of Bryan, Tx. suggested that a special contest be instituted in the area of Video Tapes. The President appointed Jay and Ben Pearlman along with Contest Chairman Gil Freitag to investigate the possibilities of such a contest.

Jim Long reported on the cost of obtaining cloth Life Membership patches. The charge will be \$75.00 for the initial tape setup and \$1.60 for each patch with a minimum order of 100 patches. The total cost would be approximately \$2.50 per patch.

Bob Mason presented the 1985 Pre-Convention report. The 1985 LSR Convention will be held in Dallas at the Regent Hotel on June 13-16, 1985. Pre-registration will be \$30.00 per person, registration at the door will be \$35.00. This fee covers all convention activities including the Saturday night banquet and the Sunday morning LSR general membership meeting breakfast.

Secretary Eunice Linda of Waco, Tx. reported on the Dues increase study. We currently expend \$3.15 on each member with a yearly dues of \$3.00, however, with the interest accrued from the Life Membership Account the Secretary recommended no dues increase at this time.

The Houston Area Model Railroad Council (comprised of the five largest model railroad clubs in Metropolitan Houston) gave away an operating electric model railroad layout to the Texas Children's Hospital in Houston. The railroad was constructed, from raw materials, during a continuously running demonstration by local model railroad craftsmen during the RAILFEST 84 show held at the Albert Thomas Convention Center on October 27 and 28, 1985.



www.alamorails.com

Secretary/Treasurer's Report

by Tom Browning

Amount Beginning Balance 10/01/2009

LSR Checking Account	\$1,773.84
Vanguard CD Fund	\$36,806.12
Acct Receivable Due 2010 Convention	\$2,000.00
Total LSR Net Worth	\$40,579.96

Not included in Total LSR Net Worth

Funds Held For Division 1	\$1,815.48
Funds Held For Division 3	\$305.68

LSR Proceeds

Vanguard CD Fund Interest	\$11.35
Vanguard Convention Fund Interest	\$4.34
Total Proceeds	\$15.69

LSR Disbursements

Marker Lamp Printing and Mailing	\$1,165.66
Youth Membership Program	\$28.00
Website	\$49.50
Checks for new Sec-Tres	\$36.06
Sec-Tres expense (Postage, copying & supplies)	\$144.89
Guaranty Service Fee	\$8.00
Total Disbursements	\$1,432.11

Net Proceeds/ Disbursements

-\$1,416.42

Amount Ending Balance 12/31/2009

LSR Checking Accounts Total	\$358.22
Vanguard Money Market Accts Total	\$36,806.12
Acct Receivable Due 2010 Convention	\$2,000.00
Total LSR Net Worth	\$39,164.34

Not included in Total LSR Net Worth

Funds Held For Division 1	\$3,080.68
Funds Held For Division 3	\$1,570.89

At the end of January 2009 our membership was 1024 and at the end of December 2009 membership was 969. Please welcome our new members listed below. When you run into them, say hello, and invite them in attend your model railroading activities.

Jimmy Brasher, Wichita Falls, TX – 01
Butch McKinney, Gainesville, TX – 01
Nelson Cain, McKinney, TX – 03
Danny Cryer, Garland, TX – 03
Matthew Flynn, Lancaster, TX – 03
Barry Hopwood, Allen, TX – 03
Gerrit Woolderink, Valley View, TX – 03
Paul Patti, College Station, TX – 04
Nancy Armstrong, Shreveport, LA – 07
Mark Couvillion, Kingwood, TX – 08
Richard Hendrickson, Tomball, TX – 08
Fred Kracke, Houston, TX – 08
Shawn Reap, Houston, TX – 08
Betsy Robinson, Houston, TX – 08
Keith Stratton, Houston, TX – 08

ELF Stories 09'

By Don Kimmell

Another year, another train ride, or so we hoped.

This was a year that almost wasn't. what with the economy; the KCS was having some serious thoughts about running the 2009 version of the Holiday Express. The number crunchers saw how much it costs to run it, and could not see any "return on investment", so.... In the end, a number of local folks let the "home office" know how important this is, and the "back office" types were over ruled, yes there would be a 2009 version of the Kansas City Southern's Holiday Express!! In fact, we would be visiting a number of "new" locals; watch out South Texas, Santa is on his way!

Due to the fore mentioned conditions, there would not be too much "new stuff" this year, just the usual maintenance and upkeep to be accomplished. We did have this electrical bug that came out of nowhere that shorted out half the lights. So yours truly was elected to crawl under, and start the trouble-shooting process....well, after 2 hours on my back, and no loose, crossed, shorted, frayed and decayed wires found, it was decided to just cut all the leads from the bus, and start all over again...all 26! In the end we did find the bad wire, it was the 24th one...as expected. With this done, the elves voted to take the summer (hot, humid Louisiana) off. So we did.

By the beginning of September guilt was setting in, so back to work...mainly cleaning, some repair...every Saturday for the next 11 weeks. Are we having fun yet? Before we knew it, Thanksgiving was here and the start of another run. This year we would be doing 22 stops in 23 days-Kansas City gets two days-actually a rather short run this year.

As usual we would start here in Shreveport, Saturday night, and as usual the weather wasn't the best....cloudy, light occasional rain and windy. Of course we had spent 3 hours on Friday bagging to get ready, and off we go.

Good night, light crowd-about 1900- plenty of help, and as usual I was one of the "up elves". It is a lot of fun, you get to be a bit obnoxious, so you try to get the crowd in the mood, then leave town....wait a minute, I live here, oh well, do it anyway. We finished about 8pm, light off then on to Wylie Yard in north Texas. Due to work, I would not be boarding till after the third stop, Jefferson, Texas. After last year, when I went on the northern end of the trip, the Head Elf wanted to make it up to me for the cold up in Yankee Land, so said "...do the southern leg, we will be going to south Texas, the weather will be nice." Would you believe I took that, hook, line and sinker!

I received "the call" at 10:00pm, that they would be watering—which is a whole story in itself-at West Tower from 10 to 11pm, and would leave shortly thereafter. So a mad dash to catch the train followed. Originally, they had told me that they would spend the night in the yard here in Shreveport, and leave

about sunrise for Leesville, well the saying is "...wait a quarter (minute, hour, day or month-take your pick) and things will change." They did! I had already been assigned my bedroom, so all I had to do, is drive 20 miles, park the truck, carry 4 bags, and walk very quickly across the parking lot to board. Made it by 10:45pm....off to another Adventure in Railroading! Sure enough, we departed at 11:05pm, talk about cutting it close! Off to Leesville...been there before, so no biggie, first night on the train, see what is going on...everyone is asleep, just me and the MOP (trainmaster) who is looking for some coffee. Off to bed. As it turned out, I was given a "big" bedroom in the "LC"-Lazaro Cardenas-a 1950 Pullman, very recently converted to a queen size bedroom sleeper-and I was assigned to "A", private shower, bathroom, flat screen satellite TV and a queen size bed...on a train no less!! Oh, the sacrifices we have to make to bring Santa to town.

Leesville would be our 4th stop. We always have a good turnout there, so first thing, after breakfast off to bagging.

A "normal" day on the Holiday Express is: 8am-breakfast; 8:45-9am-bagging (till you fill up all the boxes!); then clean up the prior nights mess, sweep, dust, wipe and clean the track to mention a few jobs; finish about 11:30am to Noon: off till Lunch at 1pm; at lunch any announcements for that evenings show would be announced; "free time" till? Due to our early-4pm-starts-we would usually start getting ready by 3or so, well, due to the miserable weather, our Head Elf decided we couldn't let those folks stand around in the -rain, cold, snow, wind (take your pick, we had them all!) we would start at 3pm or as soon as we could get set-up! Now we are in the SOUTH in December...what is this 35-degree weather? How many layers can an Elf put under the "uniform"? Sometimes it is not enough, this year I was wearing three layers under the ski bib overalls, and I was still cold, you stand around for 4 to 5 hours, and see how cold you get! Well, the folks did come out in the southern end this year....Leesville-2100+, Port Arthur-2400+, then we were off to the "Macaroni Line" in South Texas....a first, never been there, we don't have any idea what to expect, oh were we surprised!

Our trip thru Houston was interesting, to say the least, we had "trackage rights", so....if you are curious, I will tell you another time.

First stop in South Texas was the new intermodal yard in Kendleton....the middle of rice country...flat, gray, cold (30*)-no local town close...like 2 miles south, great volunteers-in fact my helper that night was the Mayor's brother! Short night, we were finished by 7pm, of course the light "snow" blowing around didn't help. We would be heading further south that night, a siding just north of Victoria, another place in the middle of rice/cotton fields. We woke up the next morning to 3" of fresh snow—in South Texas!!! They told us we would back down about a ½ mile to that night's location, and dress warm! Being in the middle of nowhere, we figured a very light crowd. Boy, were we wrong! We ended up about 2 miles north of the city limits, along US-59; beside a gravelly parking





area-actually I think they used it to store materials while they were rebuilding the railroad. The Head Elf said we would have another "early" start due to the weather, so everyone be ready by 2:30pm, oh, and dress warm. Well we wandered down to the Holiday Express on time, set things up, and there were just a few (50+) people in line, no biggie, with this weather, it should be a short night...WRONG! Word got out we were in the neighborhood, and boy, did the folks show up....we even backed traffic up, both north and southbound on US-59! I understand the traffic jam was 2 miles long to the south, and only 1 mile to the north....I think they were happy to see us!

We had almost 3600 folks visit us that night, the wait in line was almost 2 hours! I think they liked us! We finally finished at 9:45pm....almost 7 hours, but every child that wanted to see Santa, got to. Talk about some beat elves...supper that night (10:15pm) was rather subdued. The bed felt wonderful...

The next night was Edna-3000+, followed by ElCampo-2300+, and then we finished our Texas leg with Wharton-2100+. During our entire visit to South Texas, it either rained-ElCampo and Wharton, or was 30*-Victoria and Edna, then mix in a little snow...so much for "warm, sunny South Texas". The railroad was extremely happy with the turnout, the elves had another opinion, but...we did get a train ride! During our whole visit to the south, we were bagging, cleaning and the usual daily chores, of course we didn't get to see any of the towns because they would park us outside of town so we didn't cause any "major" traffic issues. Back to the "north", after another roundabout trip thru Houston.

Our next stop would be DeQuincy, LA, a wonderful small place, with a great train station museum! It sits in the middle of a "Y", with traffic all day. Now they park the business train in the yards north, just 1/2 mile away, so we would be sure to get our exercise each day...in fact if you wanted to visit anything there, it was a bit of a walk, but the weather was warmer-60* and RAIN! This night I had the Mayor of DeQuincy as my helper, and there wasn't a baby that did not get held in a politician's arms, with a picture taken! Oh I love small towns! This evening our Santa was delivered to us in a police car, with lights flashing and siren howling, and no, he wasn't under arrest, traffic was so bad, that was the only way they could get him to us. Despite the rain, we had 2100+ visitors. Thus ended our visit to the southern end of the system. Off to Vicksburg.

As usual, Vicksburg was cold-35*, damp-beside the Yazoo river, windy. We visit Vicksburg every year, and the weather is

always the same. Thank God for foot warmers, hand warmers, long underwear, wool sweaters and ski clothing! And as usual the town turned out for us-biggest crowd ever 1860! Afterward, we would be off to Mena, another all night trip! We arrived in Shreveport to turn north about 2:30am, where we had to "water" the cars.... Again. Do you know how long it takes to fill a 2500+-gallon tank with a garden hose? Multiply that by 6 cars, and you are talking a couple of hours-like 3 to 4, unless you have a couple of garden hoses-which we do. Another way is get the local fire department to use one of their pumpers to do it, which has happened a couple of times, of course, you can only do this when the weather is cold! This is the main reason you are limited to 2-minute showers, cause if you run out of water (long showers) the toilets don't flush! Oh the things we put up with for a train ride! And yes, I will do it again!

The northern legs were fairly uneventful, in fact the only snow we had this year was in South Texas-go figure. Yes it was cold, but it did not seem any colder than South Texas-go figure.

We ended up the weekend prior to Christmas in Kansas City for a Saturday (9am-5pm) and a Sunday (10am-4pm). Finished for the year. Our final count for 22 stops in 23 days was 45,575 boardings, not too bad. We raised over \$120,000. For the Salvation Army, not too bad.

And yes, if the KCS does the Holiday Express in 2010, I shall be there again, I would not know how to spend my December any other way.!



Our Elf, but where's the tights?

Scale Rails Delayed

The delivery of the February issue of Scale Rails has been delayed. This is the issue that has both the convention information and the ballot, and it is mailed to every voting member of the NMRA.

This time the delay is due to the US Post Office's failure to issue a mailing permit. This particular permit was to allow mailing from the printer's plant in Chicago, which is necessary because of the peel-off labels used to validate the ballots. The magazine was prepared on schedule, and the permit application was filed in plenty of time – we thought – but it has still not come through. So the magazines are taking up space at the printing plant as we wait for the fine folks at the Post Office to do their thing.

White River Productions is doing everything they can to hustle up the PO, but anyone who has stood in line for an hour to buy stamps knows how much good that will do. In the meantime there is every possibility that your March issue will arrive before the February one.

Mike Brestel

MINUTES OF THE LONE STAR REGION BOARD MEETING

San Antonio, TX – January 23, 2010

President **Bill McPherson** called the mid-year board meeting to order. The President spoke briefly drawing a parallel with the Boy Scouts' and the Board's duties to "Be Prepared".

Roll call

All of the officers, directors, and committee chairpersons were present except: Director-At-Large Bob Bray (proxy assigned to Chris Atkins), Division 3 Director Jerry Hoverson (proxy assigned to Chris Atkins) and Division 6 Director Fred Bock (proxy assigned to Tracy Mitchell). Late in the meeting Division 7 Director Don Kimmell had to leave and assigned his proxy to Chris Atkins.

Minutes Of Previous Meeting. **Chris Atkins** provided a motion to approve the Minutes of the June 7, 2009 Board of Directors meeting published in the 2009 summer issue of *The Marker Lamp*. **Chuck Lind** seconded the motion, and the Board passed the motion.

Officers Reports

Secretary/Treasurer Tom Browning. The Secretary/Treasurer's report, which had been submitted to the Board members prior to the meeting, was summarized. The ending balance as of October 31, 2009 (Second Fiscal Quarter) was \$40,578.43. This balance excludes amounts held for Division 1 and Division 3. The membership of the LSR ending December 31, 2009 was 969, which is 55 members less than at the beginning of the year.

Directors Reports

Division 1 Director Chris Atkins reported that the division's quarterly meeting will begin meeting every other month. A different club hosts each meeting and each meeting has a specific theme to attract existing and potential members. Chris Gavin nominated Tripper Stiles to represent Division 1 in the Youth Membership Program. Bob Mangrum of Early, Texas is actively pursuing his MMR.

Division 2 Director Dick Schneider reported that Division had a very good half-year. Many modelers are members and a number of attendants are targeted for becoming members. In this area Jim Lofland is setting up a weekly breakfast/meeting beginning January 30, 2010 with the hope of bringing forth more potential members.

Division 3 Director Jerry Hoverson reported that monthly meetings continue and attract many members. Meeting clinics vary widely in content so that there will be something for just about everyone. Many thanks go to those volunteering to make the meeting attractive to all. The Plano Train Show in January 2010 was a grand success. Members Matt Latham, TC Carr, Larry Swigert (LSR Membership Chair) Mike Jobe, Bill McPherson, Chris Atkins, Marc LaChey and Alan Price all contributed their time to bring in 31 new members.

Division 4 Director Bill Dryden report sent to *The Marker Lamp* editor Chuck Lind.

Division 5 Director Dave Lamberts report sent to *The Marker Lamp* editor Chuck Lind.

The Marker Lamp

Division 6 Director Fred Bock did not submit a report.

Division 7 Director Don Kimmell reported that membership levels remained fairly constant. A table/booth will be used to promote membership at upcoming train shows in the division.

Division 8 Director Ray Byer reported that Division 8 has been very active with events like a chili cook-off, hands-on clinics and an annual picnic at Zube Park. The members of the division lost a great lady, Rosie Milton, and all will miss her. At the 2009 Convention Blake Bogs, the division youth representative, entered two of his steam locomotives and won 2nd and 3rd place.

Director-At-Large Bob Bray did not submit a report.

Director-At-Large Chuck Lind reported that he is helping several members in the area fill out the paperwork to earn achievement certificates. He has worked with local TV and newspapers to promote open houses in the area.

Director-At-Large Tracy Mitchell did not submit a report.

Department Reports

Achievement Chair Al Boos reported that two Golden Spike Awards were earned and eight achievement certificates were awarded during the period from June 12, 2009 through January 23, 2010.

Contest Chair Duane Richardson reported that the Contest Committee met to find ways to improve the judging process and to shorten the time spent for awards presentations at the banquet. The Committee also worked very diligently to finalize the LSR contest rules.

Convention Chair Bill McPherson reported the comparison of the Dallas – Fort Worth 2009 Convention with previous conventions. This report highlights attendance, convention details, and financial results from 2001 through 2009. The report addressed the upcoming Alamo Rails convention in 2010, the Lubbock convention in 2011, and the convention in Houston in 2012.

Dispatcher Matthew Latham submitted a dispatcher report detailing the number and kinds of cars and decals available for sale. **Jerry Schoenberg** made the motion that the cars be offered for sale at \$2.00 each. Motion was seconded by **Chuck Lind** and was passed by the Board.

Historian Chair Jim Long No report was provided.

Nominating Chair Gary McMills provided a ballot to **Chuck Lind** to be included in the next *The Marker Lamp*.

Non-Rail Virginia Freitag - Bill McPherson and **Al Boos** reported that many Non-Rail activities, such as an expanded River Walk Cruise with lunch, are being planned for the Alamo Rails convention.

Publications Chair Chuck Lind reported that *The Marker Lamp* has gone out on schedule with the only exception being the one due now was to include Mid Year Board report information to the general membership. The Board acknowledged the great job **Chuck Lind** is doing in publishing *The Marker Lamp*.

Website Chair Duane Richardson reported that almost everything has been updated on the LSR Website.

Youth Chair Tom Browning reported that for the 2008/2009 period we had two new youths: Alan Serold from Division 6 and Blake Bogs from Division 8. For the 2009/2010 period we have Tripper Stiles

from Division 1, Alan Serold from Division 6 re-nominated and Alex Graf from the Officers and Directors-At-Large.

Membership Chair Larry Swigert provided a report, which **Mike Jobe** delivered, that outlined their efforts to get new members, retain existing members and re-rail the members no longer current. The highlight of their efforts was at the recent Plano Train show where thirty-one new NMRA members were signed up. According to the NMRA Headquarters Office, this may be a new record for new memberships at a local event.

Photography Chair Dave Lamberts described new photography equipment that he will use at the next convention. He also offered to give a 10-11 minute slide show about the 2009 DFW convention at the Breakfast at the Alamo Rails convention. The Convention Host accepted.

Old Business

Chuck Lind made a motion to ratify **Tom Browning** as the Secretary/Treasurer to fill the position left after the resignation of **Rocky Jackson**. **Loren Neufeld** seconded the motion and motion was passed.

Tom Browning's appointment as Youth Chair was noted but did not require Board approval. He was complimented for doing a great job.

Jerry Schoenberg made a motion to ratify all youths listed in the Youth report. **Chris Atkins** seconded the motion and the motion passed. The youths for the 2008/2009 period are **Alan Serold** in Division 6 and **Blake Bogs** in Division 8. The youths for the 2009/2010 period are **Tripper Stiles** in Division 1, **Alan Serold** in Division 6 (approved for a second year) and **Alan Graf** in Austin, Texas by the Officers and Directors-At-Large. Several minor modifications were made to the proposed Contest Rules. **Loren Neufeld** made a motion to accept the new rules.

Tracy Mitchell seconded the motion and the motion was passed. The new rules will be published on the LSR web site and in *The Marker Lamp*. They will become effective 6 months after being published in *The Marker Lamp*.

Walter J. Zahn has established the Walter Zahn Memorial Contest Award Fund in memory of his father. The initial \$1,000 contribution will be allocated at the rate of \$200 per year for a period of 5 years as partial funding for the contest awards of the LSR. **Chris Atkins** made a motion to accept the funds.

Ray Byer seconded the motion and the motion passed.

New Business

Paul Steves, the host convention chair, said the progress was going well for the Alamo Rails Convention coming up this June. The registration form and fee schedule are now on the convention website. [Subsequent to the Board meeting, much of the website has been filled in and many details about the convention are available.] Additional information will be submitted to *The Marker Lamp* for publication.

Dave Lamberts of Division 5 reported on the 2011 Lubbock convention. The hotel has been selected and a few details regarding food and beverages remain. Individual convention chairpersons have been picked. **Bill McPherson** provided to **Dave Lamberts** a copy of the Convention Planning Handbook, which provides extensive information about convention responsibilities, "what if" financial planning, and hotel contract negotiations and pitfalls.

Tom Browning reported on the membership status and how it has dropped from 1024 at the beginning of the calendar year to 969 as of December 31, 2009. Much discussion took place. **Mike Jobe** offered the assistance of the Membership Chair and Committee. He restated the outstanding result of the intensive efforts to sign up new NMRA members at the recent Plano train show. Thirty-one new members were signed up.

Bill McPherson discussed the current financial status of the LSR and the variances in dollar amounts and percentages from the budget. He stated that the LSR actual and projected income and expenses are approximately on track with the approved FY 2009/2010 budget. However, that budget has a projected net loss of \$3,963 for this fiscal year ending on April 30, 2010. The additional income of \$1,664, primarily from the Dallas-Fort Worth 2009 convention, will reduce the loss to about \$2,500. A motion was made by **Ray Byer** to change the per-capita fee from \$2.00 to \$4.00. This is the fee paid for each member registered at an annual LSR convention, as provided in the By-Laws. The motion was not seconded and was dropped.

Jerry Schoenberg made a motion that discussion be tabled until the June meeting so that there would be time to arrive at solutions for the financial issues. **Bill Dryden** seconded the motion and it passed.

Tom Browning suggested that the Division 1 and Division 3 funds currently held by the LSR be placed into separate checking accounts under the general auspices of the LSR master account. He also suggested that the Vanguard Money Market monthly interest checks be converted to automatic deposit to the Vanguard accounts. Regarding the Division 4 funds, the signature parties and statement address for the present Guaranty Bank account need to be changed and possibly brought under the LSR master account similar to the accounts for Division 1 and Division 3.

Additionally, he pointed out that the Secretary/Treasurer's report is now reporting on the LSR Fiscal Year beginning May 1 rather than the calendar year. The Board determined that none of these issues required Board approval.

Bill McPherson discussed the election ballot deadlines. The submission date for candidates and biographical data has been changed from March 15 to January 15 so the ballots can be included in the winter issue of *The Marker Lamp* instead of being mailed separately. This change will save about \$500 in postage and printing costs. The concern centered on the timeliness of election results. It was determined that no changes to the By-Laws or Constitution were necessary. The ballots are to be returned to the Nomination Committee Chairman, **Gary McMills**, by April 15, and the candidates are to be duly notified.

Much discussion took place regarding the LSR Website and it becoming more a source of information for the general membership. Much concern centered on the wisdom of making the Website an official publication of the LSR, which would require an amendment to the LSR By-Laws. Another concern was the acceptance of this by the members who do not have access to the Internet. **Loren Neufeld** made a motion that **Duane Richardson** prepare wording for possible inclusion of the Website into the By-Laws. **Chuck Lind** seconded the motion and the motion was passed.

A motion was made to move the LSR Convention Chair from **Bill McPherson** to the Vice President and the three Directors-At-Large. After lengthy discussion about the pros and cons of doing so, the motion was never seconded and consequently was dropped from further consideration.
Comments, Closing Remarks: **None**

Adjournment: All attending made motion to adjourn, all seconded and motion passed. The meeting was adjourned at 1:33 PM.

Minutes submitted by Tom Browning, Secretary/Treasurer.

LSR Youth Membership Program

By Tom Browning, LSR Youth Chair

During the recruiting period 2009/2010 three youths have been approved by the Board of Directors. **Chris Atkins**, Division 1 Director nominated **Tripper Stiles**. Tripper is from Haltom City, Texas and has loved trains since he was 18 months old. He is a member of the Texas Western Model Railroad club and writes articles for their monthly newsletter. **Fred Bock**, Division 6 Director nominated **Alan Serold** for a second time! Alan has made quite an impression on Fred. Alan and his father, John belong to the Alamo Model Railroad Engineers and almost every Saturday and Sunday afternoon Alan is busy operating the club layout. The Officers and Directors-At-Large nominated **Alex Graf** from Austin, Texas. Alex's older brother, **Robert Graf** was the youth representative for Division a few years ago and is still a member. Alex, Robert and their father **Art Graf** have attended several LSR Conventions. Alex has a special fondness for prototypes and I had the pleasure of being on the tank car tour in Houston. My goodness what a great family! And, I have been told that there will be more youth nominated soon.

I would like to thank the Division Directors for they are the ones that make the Youth Membership Program a success. We have a few more months before the recruiting period ends so if any member has a youth they believe would enjoy the benefits of being a member of the LSR/NMRA let your division director know. Thank you for letting me serve as the LSR Youth Chair.



www.alamorails.com



Cowcatcher Division 1

by Chris Atkins

Happy 2010, I hope your holidays were Joyous and Santa was good to you. As I write this, we are making preparations for the 2010 Dallas Area Train Show in Plano and the mid-year board of directors meeting in San Antonio and January division meeting.

In November, Division 1 did its part to put on the Ft. Worth Holiday Train Show. We were back at the Will Rogers Coliseum after moving to the Ft. Worth Convention center in 2008. This move seems to have worked out, because attendance was up again to the highest level since 2004. This year the Division had fewer Show Manager hours to do during the show, because we took on the responsibility of managing the vendor contracts. Other than that big job, we still make all the name badges and contribute to the web site.

I'd like to thank all the Lone Star Region members that helped out with the NMRA table at the show. This is an excellent opportunity to explain to new modelers what the NMRA and LSR are all about as well as promote our local meetings. Last year, the North Texas Council of Railroad Clubs decided not to do any clinics in Ft. Worth because it lacked a good room to hold them in. That means, that the four clinics Division 1 has committed to must all be done in Plano. With the help of our own Denny Bullard and Jerry Hoverson and Allan Gartner from Division 1, we've got this year covered, but we'll need 4 more clinics for next year.

I was lucky to be able to nominate Tripper Stiles for this year's LSR youth scholarship, and the board approved his nomination in October. Tripper and his mom Connie are active in the Texas Western. Connie reports that Tripper has loved trains since he was 18 months old. In fact, his very first word was "locomotive". His grandfather gave him his first HO trains when he was 5, and he started out with these on a sheet of plywood on the floor. By the time he was 13, he wanted something larger than 4 x 8 feet, so in 2005 we found the Texas Western

Model Railroad Club. Once we joined the club, he began to collect, bit by bit, a full Santa Fe passenger train consist. He decided to go all out on them by detailing the interiors, by adding lights, people in the seats, food on the tables, and shades on the windows. Once he finished with that, he decided to combine another interest of his, WWII, with model railroading by mounting military vehicles on flatcars. The majority of these vehicles are kits, hand painted and detailed by him. He has been home schooled all his life, and in 2006 he started writing articles for the club's monthly newsletter. He does extensive research for each article, and the guys in the club seem to enjoy them.

I am trying to move from 4 division meetings in a year to 6. We had a meeting in September, November and January. In September, we had a popular vote contest for the best locomotive. Each entrant was given a chance to tell a little about their model and describe why it was their favorite. We had such good participation, that we decided to follow that up

with another popular vote contest where all the models were unfinished projects from under then benchwork. The contest theme in January is favorite cabooses.

By the time you read this, we will have already had our January meeting at the Texas Western Club in Ft. Worth. The March meeting will be held Saturday, March 13, in room 1 of the Lockheed Martin Recreation Area Administration Building at 3400 Bryant-Irvin Blvd., Ft. Worth, TX 76019. If you have any questions, contact me by email at chris@theatkinsfamily.com or call me at 214-222-1285. You can also find out more by checking out the Division 1 website at <http://cowcatcherdivision.com>.

Hope to see you all in March.



Bayou Division 2

by Dick Schneider

Christmas and all the other holidays have gone, but the BBRRRRrrrr remains. We can finally see the end of the tunnel and the sky looks clear and the weather warm. Believe me, South LA does not handle cold weather well. Here in New Iberia we had ten (10) consecutive nights below freezing, three of which were close to being single digits.

None of the Division's layouts suffered critical damage, but for those who had layouts that were not a part of their home and not subject to heating did find the jolly ol' track layers of Jack Frost put some wavy tracks where there were only straight tracks before.

This has been a very good year for the Bayou Division. During the last part of 2009 Tom Browning and Larry Swigert provided excellent information that allowed the divisions to keep track of some of its almost delinquent members and head them off at the past. Keep up the good work fellas'.

Many of the division's layouts were open to the public over the holidays and a good time was had by all. Hopefully, MY layout will be in that category this coming Christmas. We still have several layouts to visit and report on before the end of my term in June as well as some new people to talk with.

Don't forget to vote. Your representation is at risk. Read the bios, talk with friends, and let's get some movers on board.



North East Texas Division 3

by Jerry Hoverson, MMR

Greetings all, hope Santa had an engineer's cap on when he visited your house and left lots of railroad goodies! Have

you been working on those bad weather projects I mentioned last issue? We've definitely had plenty of cold weather along with a couple of snow storms here in the DFW area to keep you inside and working on them.

Division 3 has had a great start on the weather, we finished up our series on building scenery with a foam base, we had MMR Lloyd Keyser present a great guest speaker clinic on steam generator cars, and we conducted a mini-layout tour. Many of you had asked to do a layout tour during our monthly meetings so we gave it a try in December. By all indications it was a great success, everyone enjoyed themselves and we visited 6 layouts at 5 different homes with scales ranging from Z to G!

I'd like to publicly express my sincere thanks to those that opened their layouts for this event. (Except for the last one on the list since it was mine and it would be strange to thank myself.)

1. Elbert Smith's HO Graham Branch of the Rock Island.
2. Tom Browning's Z scale Blackland Switching Company.
3. Alan Gartner's HO High & Xiety as well as his backyard G-scale Finchfield & Wrensylvaniana.
4. Richard Cook's N-scale Sand Springs Railway.
5. My own HO Rocky Mountain Central & HOn3 Colorado Pacific.

In the coming months we plan on continuing doing more of our helpful and fun clinics, start working on another achievement, visit Long Leaf to get first hand info on logging, and having another mini-layout tour. So come join in, you don't have to be in Division 3 just an NMRA member. We're looking at an exciting year coming up with lots and lots of fun railroad things to do. I'm looking for a few local volunteers who would like to open their layouts for the next division mini-layout tour so drop me an email or give me a call if you'd like to participate. By the way, did you know that by doing so you can earn points towards the "Volunteer" achievement?

Speaking of that, Larry Swigert has been doing a great job for Division 3. One of things he's done lately is to investigate and coordinate with National on several other ways anyone can legitimately earn volunteer points. The above is just an example where he was able to get National to interpret the requirements and open up the possibilities for all of us.

For those that don't know, the monthly Division 3 meeting is held on the third Saturday of the month at 10:15 in the Nicholson Memorial Library, 625 Austin Street, downtown Garland. We're still looking for a new venue where we can solder, paint, or sling plaster, so if you know of a place please let me know. I will follow up on them and hopefully we can find a new home.

Take care all and get working on your latest project but most of all have some railroading FUN!



Cen-Tex Division 4

by Bill Dryden, Jr.

The end of 2009 and early 2010 have been busy here in the Cen-Tex Division. Beside the several well attended operating

sessions at Jack Merkel's railroad, there was the Austin Jamboree in October and the Brazos Valley Railroad Society, oops, now known as the Bryan/College Station Model Railroad Society, held its annual open house in conjunction with the San Jacinto Model Railroad Club open houses. Bryan College Station MRR's - had some very fine layouts on tour, too. Bryan is "home" for me and it is always fun to get back to see (and, yeah, old) friends again and catch up a little and see how they are improving the hobby of railroading.

Austin Jamboree - some vendors with great deals, some excellent clinics and some wonderful layouts on a tour. I didn't get to see too many layouts, but sat in on a couple of the clinics. Great job by all.

Now, speaking of Jack Merkel, I'm going to spill some beans a bit early; Jack has agreed to toss his hat in the ring for the next Cen-Tex Director. I will be stepping down from the board at the end of this term. I offer my support as Jack gets railroaded into the Director's office er, I meant "elected". Jack will make a fine Division director.

I will still have another column to write before that happens, so if you have anything going on with your club or individually, please let me know so I can include you and your activities in this news letter.



Division 5

by Dave Lamberts

It looks like the hotel for the 2011 convention will be the same as last time (2003). That is to say the Holiday Inn Plaza on south loop 289. This was a great facility at the last convention and I trust it will be again. Most of the committee chairpersons have been chosen and have already started to submit some ideas for the 2011 meet.

I received the following report for Bob Roth in his January 10 *Run 8* Report. Out at the ARM world headquarters as 2009 comes to a close I believe that we are showing significant progress on the construction of the layout. We have the bench work in place for both levels along the East wall that will support Canyon on the upper level and Zita on the lower level and Tracy just started installation of the spline roadbed on the lower level extending out from the helix. Up top Tracy has been working on shingle installation giving the one leg of the layout a near finished look. Additionally the bench work for Amarillo Junior Yard has been assembled but it is pulled out from the wall to leave room for painting of the backdrop and Virgil Young has been working regularly on the backdrop painting. We still have a long way to go, but we are definitely well on our way. Bob is president of the Amarillo Railroad Museum and is kind enough to email me his newsletters

I also received a report from Jim Hartle of the San Angelo Texas Model Railroad Club. It reads as follows: As possibly the

only NMRA member is San Angelo, I thought I would try to update you on the model railroad happenings in San Angelo, the other end of your division. The Concho Valley Model Railroad Club is heavily involved in building and maintaining the model railroad layouts at the Historic Orient Santa Fe Railroad Museum in San Angelo [<http://railwaymuseumsanangelo.homestead.com>].

We currently have five layouts at the museum. A 12x6 foot N scale layout that represents the KCM&O as it looked in 1928 San Angelo. A HO scale layout of the Copper Canyon area of Mexico to the Barnhart, Texas cattle pens. It is a U shaped 30x4 foot layout. There is also a 4x10 foot HO scale freelanced layout originally built by a junior high school class and a new 9x30 foot O scale layout that is loosely based on the Sante Fe Railroad from Ballinger, Texas to the San Angelo yard.

We received a donation of a free standing 4x16 foot N scale layout. This layout was donated by the Lem Allan family of Coleman, Texas. Mr. Allan worked on it for many years. When he moved to Argentina with his cattle operation he packed it up and shipped it south. He passed away in Argentina before he ever unpacked it. After a few years in storage it was shipped back to the US and Coleman. The family donated it to the Museum and has endowed it's renovation. I think this railroad has more than 4000 scale miles.

This is the 100th anniversary of the old KCM&O depot in San Angelo and a year-long celebration with special activities is planned. There will be a Harvey Girl display, A KCM&O and Poncho Vila exhibit along with other exhibits and displays culminating with a large celebration around Labor Day with the presentation of a historic landmark marker by the Texas Historical Commission.



Division 6

by Fred Bock, MMR

Happy New Year, y'all! Hope your Christmas holiday season was a merry one. But now, it's the start of a new year and yet another decade.

Last time, I asked if anyone was interested in starting an "AP Support Group" for those of you working in, or interested in working in, the NMRA Achievement Program. (Or, even if you aren't particularly interested in the "AP" per se, but would like to learn more about the topics the AP covers.) Well, I only got one reply, from an LSR member in Austin (who would be very welcome, of course!). Several clubs - SAMRA and SANTRAK, for two - already hold monthly "clinics for their members, with topics rotating as they find "clinicians" with interesting topics. If you're a member of one of those groups, your "continuing education" needs are in good hands. But how about the rest of you, the "AP" isn't primarily about "earning merit badges", as one region's director put it. Instead, it is learning about ways to have even more enjoyment out of our

hobby . . . learning from “experts” and from each other. So, again: if you’re interested, send me an E-mail or call me. If there’s enough interest, we’ll set something up. And, by the way, the Hobbytown-USA hobby shop in San Antonio now has a great facility for holding these AP Support Group clinics at its new location on Loop 410. They have a meeting room with in-the-round conference-table space for 22 participants. The room has been retrofitted with lots of bright overhead lighting – better than the lighting on my workbench! Electrical outlets are strung all around the room on about 18-inch spacing. On order is a computer data projector for laptop presentations, a grease board, and easel with butcher paper, plus markers. This is a first-rate facility. . . and it’s available for any hobby organization, including model railroading groups, who need a place for a meeting, a clinic, or other like event. So if your group is looking for such a place, give Hobbytown a try. And thanks to Clark and Kathy at Hobbytown for supporting the San Antonio hobby community in this way. Thanks guys!

Spring approaching, and a young man’s fancy turns to thoughts of . . . train shows! It’s that time of year again. In the San Antonio area, SAMRA will hold its annual Jamboree and Train Show at the Live Oak Civic Center on January 30-31st. And, six weeks later, the New Braunfels Railroad Museum will hold its annual Spring Show at the New Braunfels Civic Center on March 20-21st. Old hands can anticipate the “usual suspects” to be there; both shows are good venues to meet old friends and talk shop.

That’s about it for this time around. See you next time. As Charlie Getz says in the NG&SL Gazette; write if the mood strikes you. Happy railroading!



Division 7

by Don Kimmell

I hope everyone had a very good Christmas, with lots of trains and stuff under the tree.

First off, I want to remind everyone about the upcoming train shows in this neck of the woods.

Longview Model Train Show will be Saturday March 20 and Sunday March 21 at the Fairgrounds Exhibit Building, in Longview. It is off of Hwy 31 on Jaycee Drive. This is usually a very good one, with many Vendors who usually are looking to make some good deals.

The Tyler Tap, Cotton Belt Show will be Saturday and Sunday April 24th & 25th. Another good one, not real big, but they tend to make up for it in friendliness!

Now, the past, the Marshall T&P Depot Show was another good one, not too big a crowd, but everyone had a good time! The Museum Folks were happy with the numbers, but always wishing for a bigger crowd.

The local hobby shop, Trains and Trends, has relocated to a new home. . . . an old skating ring! You would not believe the

space they now have, in fact they have bought out the inventory of a couple other shops, and greatly expanded their stock. If you are in the area, they are now located in the “old Crystal Palace” on the east side of Mansfield Road, just south of 70th Street. Stop in and visit.

The ArkLaTex bunch did their 3 weeks at the Shriner’s Hospital just prior to Christmas. I am continually amazed at how much the model trains do to cheer up the kids, wonderful is an understatement. Everyone had a good time including the Gentleman in Red!

The folks down in Alexandria at the Children’s Museum are continuing their Junior Engineer program with great success.

I would be remiss if I did not put in a plug for the upcoming Convention in San Antonio, Alamo Rails, June 2 thru 6. From what I have heard it is looking to be a good one.



Texas Gulf Division 8

by Ray Byer

Man, the last year was moving! A lot of things were tried out for the first time, so let’s start at the beginning.

In April, we had the first Division 8 chili cook-off in Alvin. We had eight cooking teams and around 25 to 30 people showed up to sample the chili. Trains were slow that day, but the chili was good.

Next we move to the LSR convention in Dallas. A good number of Division 8 members attended and entered models in the contest. There were a lot of good looking models and Division 8 2009 Youth Member Blake Bogs entered his first regional contest and did well. The highlight of the year’s convention was the LSR sponsored train ride to the Fort Worth Stockyards.

Next we move to September. We held a hands-on clinic that went on for four weekends in a row. We started with simple blocks of wood, and after we finished, we had tool sheds in several scales. I would like for all who attended the clinics to bring their buildings to the next San Jac show and enter them into the contest.

We lost a great lady in the San Jac club and Division 8. Rosalie Milton was one who worked in the background. She was the editor of The Derail newsletter for the San Jac club, but she let husband Dave think he was the editor. So keep Dave and the Milton family in your prayers; she would like that.

Next we move to the annual picnic at Zube Park. A great big hand goes to HALS for hosting this event each year. HALS had trains running, and we had deep fried turkeys - no hurricane to keep the turkeys away this time! Members brought some great side dishes, and if you left hungry, you stopped eating too early.

Look to the beginning of the New Year for the next Division 8 meeting, so we can plan 2010’s fun. See you there!

The Marker Lamp

Pike Ads



We meet Thursdays 7 to 10PM, and the 2nd and 4th Saturdays of the month (10 AM to 4 PM). Business meeting, 1st Thursday of the month. Memberships open. From I-40, take the Lakeside exit (#75). Go north on Lakeside 2.2 miles to U. S. Highway 60. Turn right, go east 3.9 miles east. Turn right on I Ave., look for the yellow building with a red roof. P. O. Box 31105, Amarillo, TX 79120 (806) 335-3333.
www.amarillorailmuseum.com



**MILWAUKEE
SOUTHWESTERN**
"THE LINDAS"
WACO, TEXAS

**South Texas
Terminal Ry.**
THE HARRISBURG LINE
Dave Milton *Houston*

**WEST
VIRGINIA
WESTERN**

"THE SHINE LINE"
HOUSTON, TEXAS HO & 11/2" SCALE

**DAWCHA SOUTHERN
RAILWAY CO.**

IRON HORSE ROUTE
CHARLIE SPANGLER, PRES. 2351 Rolling Creek
830-885-4515 Spring Branch, TX 78070-5656

THE SOUTH SIDE AND RIO MESA
Dallas, Texas



An HO club layout being built to operate! Featuring DCC, signaling, train detection, computerized dispatching and car forwarding.

We currently have openings for all interests and skill levels. Join us Tuesdays at 7:30 in the historic Sears Catalog Warehouse - now the South Side on Lamar Building just south of the convention center in downtown Dallas.

www.railroadmodelers.com



**Graham Branch
Southern Division**

"Serving Jacksboro Since 1898"

Elbert Smith, Supt.
Garland, TX
972-681-0117
barbel_518@sbcglobal.net

*Advertise your pike
call
Elbert 972-681-0117*



Delta & Canyon Southern
Railroad
A Union Pacific Subsidiary
Established June 3rd, 1955

Dick Schneider
CEO & General Manager
418 Crossbow Dr.
New Iberia, LA 70563

TRAINS42@aol.com (337) 364-6931

**Gulf & Denver
Railroad Authority**



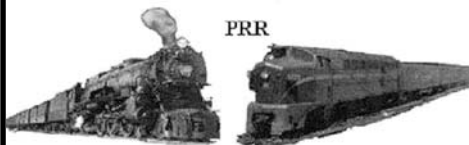
Home of the

Gulf & Denver Railroad
St. Charles & Western Railroad
Port Allen Terminal Railroad
Lone Pine & Eagle Pass Rwy.

LOCKHEED MARTIN RECREATION ASSOC.
RAILROAD ACTIVITY
FORT WORTH, TEXAS

Railroad Activity: <http://www.lmra.org/activity.html>

THE ALLEGHENY RAILROAD
HORSESHOE CURVE
ALTOONA



PRR

Jerry Schoenberg
Carrollton, Texas (972) 242-9053
arrjerry@aol.com



www.dovetailstudio.com/trains

TEXAS ★ SPECIAL

Visit the Houston Railroad Museum and tour a unique rail collection that includes locomotives, passenger cars, freight cars and cabooses with a Texas connection. Board a *Texas Special* chair car, a *Texas Eagle* sleeper, a *Texas Chief* lounge car, blow the horn on a Texas-Mexican diesel, tour MKT and SP cabooses, and more.

Open Saturdays April - November

Houston Railroad Museum
7390 Mesa Dr., Houston 77028
Tel: 713-631-6612
www.houstonRRmuseum.org



Gilbert Freitag Houston, Texas

NEVADUN RAILROAD

Jim Packer
Colleyville, Texas 76034
817-514-7291
E-mail - jim.packer@sbcglobal.net
Website - WWW.NEVADUNRAILROAD.COM



SAMRA
The San Antonio
Model Railroad
Association

The Bob Clarke Heritage Rail Museum
4000 Sq. Ft. Layout and Museum
7702 Narrow Pass, Live Oak, Texas 78233

Meetings are 2nd Friday of every month.
Annual Jamboree last weekend in January
Family Train Show July 19 & 20, 2008

www.samratx.org
or Contact: Ron Nagel 210-651-5188

Ruptured Duck & Dafler R.R.
1 1/2" Scale 7 1/2" Gauge
James C. Dafler P.O. Box 481
Devine, TX 78016 830-663-5786
email rdanddr@att.net

MID SOUTH RAILROAD CLUB
BATON ROUGE, LA
MEETINGS: EVERY TUESDAY @ 7:00PM
HO WALK AROUND WITH NCE-DCC
JWG3RD@AOL.COM

Dealer Ads

G & G MODEL SHOP, INC.

2522 Times Boulevard • Houston, Texas 77005

(713) 529-7752



4007-e Bellaire Boulevard
Houston, Texas 77025
713-523-5600

Fax 713-523-6606
papabenstrains@gmail.com

For Information on Dealer and Pike Ads

contact

Elbert Smith

518 Granada Drive Garland, TX 75043 972-681-0117

THE TRAINCELLAR

SPECIALIZING IN HO, N & Z SCALE MODEL TRAINS

Larry & Annie Nalewak

9 N. White Heron Drive
LaMarque, TX 77568-6545
Phone/Fax (409) 935-8029 • e-mail: TRAINCELLAR@aol.com

ORDER ONLINE • PICK UP LOCALLY • SAVE ON SHIPPING



dallasmodelworks.com

Pike Ads

PURGATORY & DEVIL RIVER RAILROAD

SERVICE TO THE HIGH COUNTRY

MOUNTAIN RAILROADING IN HO N3

<http://www.purgatoryanddevilriver.com>

PAUL RICHARDSON, MMR - PURGATORY DIVISION
DUANE RICHARDSON, MMR - EL LOBO DIVISION

Pennsylvania Railroad
Laurel Valley Subdivision
Pittsburgh Division Circa 1957
Brady & Jane McGuire Sherman, Texas
903-868-2726
Southwestern Pennsylvania in Texas O Scale

BC&G
BAYOU CITY & GULF
www.houstonNcrowd.org

GRIZZLY RIDGE R.R.



1881 1889

The Bear-ly Make It Route

A 6' Division of the

Ark-La-Tex Modular Club

Tom White

Haughton, La.

GNAW BONE & WESTERN



The Kentuckiana Line

Jim Long

Pearland, Texas

CHICAGO, FRENCH LICK & NEW ORLEANS R.R.

The Scenic Line Through Southern Indiana

Jim Long

Pearland, Texas

ACME
& MINERAL
CITY
RAILROAD

Bill Dryden
469-964-8571
Georgetown, Texas
bdr1@airmail.net
Life Member NMRA & LSR



Tall Pine Lumber Co. RR

West Coast Logging in On3

Chuck & Laurie Lind

College Station, Texas

The TEXAS CENTRAL

The eyes of Texas Are Upon You!

Bob Batson
1914-56th Street
Lubbock, TX 79412



MAPLE VALLEY RR

Chuck & Karen Wilson
506 Innwood Drive
Georgetown, TX 78628-7606
Email: chuck@mvrr229.com
512-931-2715 Cell 512-694-1827



FARMERS GRAIN & TERMINAL

SHORTLINE RAILWAY

TIMETABLE No. 12

CHURCH LANE — COMMERCIAL ST.

W. J. Zahn
PRES. - GEN. MGR.

A. C. Zahn
TREAS. - DINING SUPT.

Tara Dawn Walker
FRT. & PASS. AGENT

Traffic Dept: 270-0702

